

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, UNIDO

SUBJECT: SOCIALIST BLOC DEMARCHE TO SYG WALDHEIM ON UNIDO ASG
POSTS AND REORGANIZATION

REF: VIENNA 1218

1. IN RESPONSE TO WRITTEN REQUEST FROM SOVIET PERM REP EROFEEV, UNIDO SECRETARIAT MADE HURRIED ARRANGEMENTS FOR COURTESY CALL ON UNSYG WALDHEIM BY SMALL GROUP OF VIENNA-BASED PERM REPS TO UNIDO FOR MORNING OF FEB. 16 (GROUP B WAS REPRESENTED AT PERM REP LEVEL BY JAPAN, UK, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA AND SWEDEN). IN COURSE OF WHAT IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN BRIEF, AWKWARD MEETING, POLISH PERM REP KARSKI READ PREPARED STATEMENT ON BEHALF GROUP D STATING ITS VIEW THAT THESE SHOULD BE NO FURTHER MOVES TO REORGANIZE UNIDO NOR TO APPOINT DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS UNTIL THE NEGOTIATIONS ON A CONSTITUTION FOR UNIDO AS A SPECIALIZED AGENCY HAD REACHED A POINT AT WHICH THE FORM AND DIRECTION OF A NEW UNIDO WOULD BECOME CLEARLY APPARENT.

2. WALDHEIM WAS REPORTEDLY CAUGHT OFF BASE BY KARSKI'S STATEMENT, BUT WAS RESCUED BY USG DAVIDSON, WHO STATED FIRMLY THAT HE SAY NO JUSTIFICATION FOR MORE THAN ONE
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DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (ASG) POST AND NO PROSPECT OF AN INCREASE IN POSTS FOR UNIDO AT THAT LEVEL. REMAINDER OF MEETING WAS REPORTEDLY LIMITED TO EXCHANGE OF COURTESIES.

3. COMMENT - SOVIET MISSION TO UNIDO HAS NEVER BEEN PARTICULARLY RETICENT ABOUT PRIVATELY VOICING ANNOYANCE AT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KHANE'S FAILURE TO SEEK CONSULTATIONS

WITH MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS PRIOR TO HIS JANUARY 1976 REORGANIZATION OF UNIDO, THEIR CENTRAL CONCERN BEING THAT OF STEMMING ANY INSTITUTIONAL MOVES THAT MIGHT RESULT IN A DIMINUTION OF SOVIET AND BLOC INFLUENCE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. GIVEN THEIR STRENUOUSLY PROMOTED ATTITUDE THAT USSR AND BLOC HAVE "RIGHTS OF INHERITANCE" TO CERTAIN SENIOR STAFF POSITIONS IN UNIDO, SOVIETS APPARENTLY FEAR THAT FURTHER REORGANIZATIONS OF UNIDO STRUCTURE WILL TRAP THEM INTO SITUATION IN WHICH THEIR SENIOR NATIONALS OCCUPY POSITIONS OF DIMINISHED SIGNIFICANCE, WHILE REAL POWER WITHIN UNIDO IS INCREASINGLY SHIFTED TO NATIONALS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH SOVIET AND BLOC MISSIONS ARE NOT ALONE IN FEELING SOME APPREHENSION OVER APPARENT TREND TOWARD LESSENING OF INFLUENCE WITHIN ORGANIZATION OF MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS, THEY SEEM TO BE ALONE IN BELIEVING THAT THEIR INTERESTS IN THIS REGARD ARE OF SUFFICIENT WEIGHT AS TO REQUIRE FORMAL EXPRESSION OF CONCERN.

4. SOVIET DISTRUST OF EXDIR KHANE IN THIS RESPECT CAN ONLY HAVE BEEN ENHANCED BY RECENT SPATE OF RUMORS TO EFFECT THAT KHANE IS CONTEMPLATING FURTHER EXTENSIVE REORGANIZATION OF UNIDO. WHILE PERSONNEL REASSIGNMENTS ANNOUNCED FEB. 15 (SEE REFTEL) HARDLY AMOUNT TO MAJOR CHANGE IN UNIDO STRUCTURE (ALTHOUGH THEY COULD BE FIRST OF SEVERAL MOVES TO THAT END), AND WHILE PRIMARY VICTIM SEEMS TO BE AFIFI, WHOSE STUDIES CENTER LOSES TWO IMPORTANT SECTIONS, THEY CAN BE SEEN AS IMPINGING ON SOVIET INTERESTS IN THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAMS IN FIELD OF DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY -- OF PARTICULAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERESTS TO SOVIETS -- IS NOW GIVEN OVER TO INDIAN NATIONAL WHO, IN REPORTING DIRECTLY TO EXDIR KHAN RATHER THAN THROUGH HIS NOMINAL SUPERIOR VELIKY (USSR), WILL IN EFFECT HAVE PRIVATE FIEF ALONGSIDE THE FORMAL STRUCTURE OF INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION AND OUTSIDE VELIKY'S CONTROL.

5. THESE DEVELOPMENTS IMPLY A CHANGE IN THE SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARD THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT UNIDO SHOULD HAVE MORE THAN ONE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. HERETOFORE, THE SOVIET ARGUMENT THAT UNIDO SHOULD HAVE THREE SUCH POSTS -- ONE FOR THE G-77, ONE FOR GROUP B (WESTERN COUNTRIES) AND ONE FOR GROUP D (SOVIET BLOC) -- SEEMED TO BE BASED ON THE GOAL OF INCREASING BLOC INFLUENCE IN THE ORGANIZATION AND WAS NOT ADVANCED AS A "MAKE OR BREAK" PROPOSITION IN THE CONTEXT OF NEGOTIATIONS ON A CONSTITUTION FOR UNIDO, NOR, INsofar AS MISSION IS AWARE, IN CONTEXT OF REVIEW OF UNIDO BUDGETS IN ACABQ OR UNGA FIFTH COMMITTEE. IF NOW, HOWEVER, SOVIETS SEE PLACEMENT OF ONE OF THEIR NATIONALS IN DEPUTY EXDIR POSITION IN ESSENTIALLY DEFEN-

SIVE TERMS -- TO "STOP THE ROT" OF DIMINISHING BLOC IN-
FLUENCE WITHIN GHE ORGANIZATION -- THEY CAN BE EXPECTED
TO PRESS MORE VIGOROUSLY FOR THEIR TROIKA CONCEPT, BOTH
AS A MAJOR GOAL OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE FIFTH SESSION OF
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE UNIDO CONSTITUTION
(IGC-V) AND IN THE ACABQ AND FIFTH COMMITTEE. SHOULD THIS
INDEED PROVE TO BE THE CASE, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH CONSIDER
HOW THIS DEVELOPMENT MIGHT BE TURNED TO ADVANTAGE OF USG
IN IGC-V NEGOTIATIONS, PERHAPS IN CONTEXT OF DEFINITION OF
UNIDO BUDGET AND BUDGETARY PROCEDURES. GARLAND

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